



Press Release

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Idaho Cattle Industry Suffers \$58.7 Million in Death Loss

Idaho cattle producers lost an estimated 93,000 head of cattle and calves from all causes in 2010, according to the National Agricultural Statistics Service. Losses were valued at \$58.7 million. Losses from predators accounted for 6,100 head, 6.6 percent of the total. Non-predator losses accounted for 86,900 head, 93.4 percent of the total. Predator losses were valued at \$3.32 million. Wolves accounted for 30.0 percent of the cattle lost to predators and 47.4 percent of the calves. Coyotes accounted for 26.9 percent of calves lost to predators. Non-predator losses were valued at \$55.3 million. Respiratory problems were the largest cause of non-predator deaths, accounting for 25.6 percent of the cattle lost and 33.9 percent of the calves. The second largest non-predator cause was digestive problems, accounting for 13.4 percent of the cattle and 24.9 percent of the calves.

Cattle and calf losses from predators and non-predator causes in the United States totaled 3.99 million head (excluding Alaska) during 2010. This represents 4.3 percent of the 93.9 million cattle and calves in the United States at the beginning of 2010. Losses of cattle weighing more than 500 pounds totaled 1.73 million head or 43.4 percent of total losses. Calves weighing less than 500 pounds lost to all causes totaled 2.26 million head or 56.6 percent of total losses. Cattle and calf losses from animal predators totaled nearly 220 thousand head during 2010. This represented 5.5 percent of the total deaths from all causes and resulted in a loss of \$98.5 million to farmers and ranchers. Coyotes and dogs caused the majority of cattle and calf predator losses accounting for 53.1 percent and 9.9 percent respectively. Cattle and calf losses from non-predator causes totaled 3.77 million head or 94.5 percent of the total losses during 2010. Respiratory problems represented the leading cause of non-predator deaths, accounting for 28.0 percent, followed by digestive problems at 13.4 percent.

This report is released every five years as a cooperative effort between the National Agricultural Statistics Service and Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service – Wildlife Services and Veterinary Services.

Find agricultural statistics for your county, State, and the Nation at www.nass.usda.gov.